

AGENDA ITEM III B

PROPOSED ACADEMIC PROGRAM

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY-ALEXANDRIA

B.S. IN PSYCHOLOGY

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The proposed B.S. in Psychology at Louisiana State University-Alexandria is a natural outgrowth of the existing Bachelor of Liberal Arts - Psychology Major. When this major was approved by the Board of Regents in February, 2002, it was expected that the University would be forthcoming with a proposal for a separate and distinct degree when student interests merited such a move and resources were available to support a free-standing program.

STAFF SUMMARY

1. Description/Purpose/Goals

The proposal describes program as follows:

The psychology degree will provide an opportunity for students seeking a bachelors degree that prepares them for either graduate study in psychology or a closely related field (counseling) or for a variety of entry level positions in the world of work. The Bachelor of Science in Psychology is an enhancement of the Bachelor of Liberal Studies degree in that it is a traditional psychology degree. As such, it will enhance opportunities for students to enter graduate school or to secure employment in the world of work. The Bachelor of Science in Psychology will replace the Bachelor of Liberal Studies with a psychology major. A fuller discussion of professional opportunities is found in appendices.

Program objectives were provided in the proposal also:

- 1. To prepare students for jobs or positions that require skills learned in psychology.*

Students will be prepared to enter the 21st century workforce. Data indicate that employers value skills in thinking and problem solving, information gathering and synthesis, interpersonal and intrapersonal skills, and adaptability (Kuther, 2004). Graduates with a Bachelor's degree in Psychology are prepared to perform a variety of job activities and may pursue numerous job titles. Sample activities include maintaining scientific laboratories, conducting interviews, administering surveys, and recruiting, placing, and training employees (Kuther, 2004). Relevant job titles include administrative assistant, advertising agent, customer relations, insurance claims/underwriter, job analyst, marketing representative, public information officer,

staff training and development, community relations officer, fast food restaurant manager, historical research assistant, hospital patient service representative, research assistant, and volunteer coordinator (Landrum and Davis, 2003). The use of traditional minors (in the process of development at LSUA) will enhance entry into the workforce with a bachelor's degree.

2. *To prepare students for graduate or professional school which will enable them to seek jobs or positions in psychology.*

The Bachelor of Science in Psychology will prepare students for entry into graduate school in psychology. Specific courses are required in the major that will prepare students for the rigors of graduate school, including but not limited to, statistics, experimental psychology, ethical, legal and professional issues in psychology, psychometrics, personality, history of psychology and physiological psychology. Graduates may choose an alternate professional degree such as Master's of Social Work. Some social work graduate programs may accept applicants with a major in psychology and a minor in social work if they complete requisite pre-professional courses. The same holds true for master's degree counseling programs that prepare graduates to practice as a licensed professional counselor.

The proportion of psychology majors at LSUA who self-report they intend to pursue graduate school is approximately 91%. This figure is derived from survey data during Fall 2004. Thirteen sections were surveyed in which 45 students identified themselves as psychology majors. Of these 45 majors, 41 self reported that they intended to apply to graduate school either in psychology or a related field. Given the nature of this data, it is probably skewed. Realistically, the faculty anticipates that some 10% will attend graduate school.

2. Need

The proposal addressed the issue of need as follows:

Bachelor degrees in psychology are currently offered at most public and private four year institutions in Louisiana. The Bachelor of Arts is offered at Grambling State University, Louisiana Tech University, Nicholls State University, the University of Louisiana at Monroe, Southeastern Louisiana University, Louisiana State University, and Southern University at New Orleans. The Bachelor of Science is offered at McNeese State University, Northwestern State University, the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Louisiana State University, Louisiana State University in Shreveport, the University of New Orleans, and Southern University at Baton Rouge.

The proposed major in psychology is included in the list of typical programs for baccalaureate universities in the April 1994 Board of Regents program review documentation. Most universities offer these majors or degrees because these programs are considered standard offerings for all institutions offering four-year degrees.

During the Spring 2004-2005 semester, LSUA enrolled approximately 145 students who declared a psychology major. There should be a sufficient pool of lower-division

students to support upper-level offerings. (See enrollment numbers in 3: Students). Additionally, this degree should provide an ideal opportunity for area residents who have completed some college course work, often from multiple institutions and toward multiple majors, to complete a college degree.

3. Curriculum

The proposal describes the proposed curriculum as follows:

The degree requires 39 hours of general education courses, 21-23 hours of additional specified courses in humanities, sciences and social sciences and 24 hours of approved electives. Students may choose a minor within approved electives. The major consists of 39 hours in psychology; a minor must complete 18 hours.

Developmental and cognitive psychology are integrated and taught as components in the following required core courses:

PSYC 2000	Introductory to Psychology
PSYC 3081	Personality Psychology
PSYC 3140	Advanced Social Psychology
PSYC 4020	Introduction to Psychometrics
PSYC 4034	Physiological Psychology
PSYC 4900	Senior Seminar in Psychology

Louisiana is on the forefront with prescriptive authority for appropriately trained, licensed psychologists. A psychoactive drugs and behavior course is under development (PSYC 4060).

The degree requires 45 hours of upper level courses, 15 of which must be senior level. General education natural sciences are not upper level courses. At least 18 hours of English Literature, Humanities, and Social Sciences electives must be upper level in order to meet the 45 hours requirement cited above. That is, 18 hours of additional courses must be upper level in order to meet the degree requirement of 45 hours of upper level courses.

Bachelor of Science in Psychology (122 Hours)

Freshman Year (32)

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
ENGL 1001 Composition I	3	ENGL 1002 Composition II	3
General Education History *	3	MATH 1021	3
General Education Biology	3	General Education Natural Science	3
General Education Natural Science Lab	1	General Education Natural Science Lab	1
General Education Communication Studies . .	3	PSYC 2000 - Introductory	3
General Education Social Sciences	<u>3</u>	General Education History	3
	16	General Education Computer Literacy **	<u>0</u>
			16

Sophomore Year (33)

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
English Literature	3	PSYC 3017- Experimental	3
General Education Fine Arts	3	Humanities	3
General Education Math	3	General Education Social Sciences	3
PSYC 2011 - Statistics	3	Natural Science	3
Humanities	3	PSYC Elective ***	<u>3</u>
Natural Science	<u>3</u>		15
	18		

Junior Year (30)

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
PSYC 3140 - Social or 3032 - Learning or 4034 - Physiological	3	PSYC Elective	3
PSYC 4001 - Ethics	3	PSYC Elective	3
Minor Requirement or Elective****	3	PSYC 3081 - Personality or 4008 - History of Psyc	3
Humanities	3	Social Sciences	3
Social Sciences	<u>3</u>	Minor Requirement or Elective	<u>3</u>
	15		15

Senior Year (27)

Fall Semester		Spring Semester	
PSYC 4020 - Psychometrics or 4082 - AbnormaB PSYC Elective	3	PSYC Elective	3
Minor Requirement or Elective	3	PSYC 4900 - Senior Seminar	3
Minor Requirement or Elective	3	Minor Requirement or Elective	3
Minor Requirement or Elective	<u>3</u>	Elective	<u>3</u>
	15		12

- * See list of approved courses in the General Education section of the catalog.
- ** All graduates must demonstrate computer competency.
- *** At least one elective must be a field practicum or directed research course; maximum of 9 hrs. counted toward the degree.
- **** Minor 18 hrs. in one area. Relevant minors include but are not limited to Business, Criminal Justice, History, Nursing/Allied Health, or Sociology/Social Work.

4. Students

The proposal provides the following student numbers projections:

The following table shows the number of estimated enrollees in upper-level courses taken as part of this degree plan and the projected graduates for the new baccalaureate program. Note that in addition to upper-level enrollees, additional students will undoubtedly be enrolled in lower-level courses in preparation for the program. The expectation is to lose fewer students to transfer or dropout with the enhanced availability of courses and selections when the LSUA program becomes operational. These projections

are partially based on the experience with the LSUA Bachelor of Liberal Studies with a major in psychology.

<i>Category/Year</i>	<i>Year 1 2006</i>	<i>Year 2 2007</i>	<i>Year 3 2008</i>	<i>Year 4 2009</i>	<i>Year 5 2010</i>
<i>Upper Level</i>	<i>156*</i>	<i>164**</i>	<i>172**</i>	<i>182**</i>	<i>190**</i>
<i>Graduates</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>30</i>

* Duplicated enrollments based on 14th Day data, Fall 2004.

** Assumes an enrollment increase of roughly 20% through the fifth year.

A modest number of students may switch from a general studies (Bachelor of General Studies with a concentration in psychology) to the Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Most students in the Bachelor of Liberal Studies with a major in psychology will switch to the Bachelor of Science in Psychology because a graduate with a Bachelor of Science is more likely to be admitted to graduate school. For Fall 2005, there were 136 students enrolled in the Bachelor of Liberal Studies with a major in psychology.

5. Faculty

The proposal indicates current faculty resources and projected needs as follows:

The degree will be administered in the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences. Faculty members in this department are listed below. However, faculty in other departments will also be teaching courses for this degree. A complete faculty listing can be found in the LSUA Catalog. Vitae of faculty from other departments are available upon request.

Elder, Richard, appointment date, August 2005; Assistant Professor of Psychology; 8 years teaching experience; B.S. Psychology, M.S. Psychology, Fort Hays State University; Ph.D., General Experimental Psychology, Kansas State University; present credits, 12 hours, contact hours, 12 hours, student credit hours produced, 1332; student advisor; coordinator of zoological research.

Gormanous, Greg, appointment date, August 1975; Professor of Psychology; 31 years teaching experience; B.A., Psychology, Louisiana College; M.S., Psychology, Northwestern State University; Ph.D., General Psychology, University of Southern Mississippi; post doctoral graduate course work, Industrial and Organizational Psychology, University of Houston; licensed psychologist; present credits, 6 hours; contact hours, 6 hours; student credit hours produced, 228; serves as Chair of Behavioral and Social Sciences Department.

Kelly, Kathryn, appointment date August 2000, Assistant Professor of Psychology; 6 years teaching experience; B.A., Psychology; M.A., Human Relations and Supervision; Ph.D. Counseling Psychology, Louisiana Tech University; candidate for licensure as a psychologist; present credits, 9 hours; contact hours, 9 hours, student credit hours produced, 1179; volunteers at LSUA counseling center 3 hours; serves as student advisor; faculty advisor to the Psychology Club and to Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology.

Treuting, Mary, appointment date August 1994, Professor of Psychology; 11 years teaching experience; B.A. Psychology; M.A. Psychology; Ph.D., School Psychology, Louisiana State University; licensed psychologist; present credits, 12 hours; contact hours 12 hours; student credit hours produced, 2604; serves as student advisor and facilitator of Behavioral Sciences group.

Initiation of the program will require one additional faculty member in psychology during the first or second year of the program. Targeted areas or specialties include general psychology, experimental psychology, industrial and organizational psychology, and biological psychology. Depending on enrollment, a second position may be needed at some time. New faculty will have a doctoral degree in psychology including completion of core graduate course work such as that specified in doctoral psychology programs meeting designation criteria (e.g., cognitive - affective bases of behavior; individual differences; social bases of behavior; and biological bases of behavior.) The rationale for such hires is to ensure that new faculty possess a broad based doctoral degree in psychology. At least one position should be filled by a doctoral level candidate with expertise in quantitative psychology (statistics). The university is strongly supportive of this as a key new program in our baccalaureate mission. Should the need arise, the University will move an otherwise vacant position from another department to fill this faculty need.

6. Library and Other Informational Resources

The proposal estimates the need for limited library/information resource additions as follows:

LSUA's Bolton Library has supported bachelor programs offered by LSU through its Senior College program for years. Some additions to the collection will be needed to fully support LSUA's anticipated additional courses. One of the benefits of LSUA's program will be a wider selection of courses which requires a wider array of library resources. Additional electronic resources will be acquired as necessary. Because the library is already supporting a comparable program, additional expenditures beyond normal allocations will not be necessary.

The medical library at Central Louisiana State Hospital in Pineville, Louisiana has a wealth of resources and is open to students and faculty at LSUA. Central Louisiana State Hospital, CHRISTUS St. Frances Cabrini Hospital, the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center-Alexandria, DeQuincy Memorial Hospital, Huey P. Long Medical Center, Overton Brooks VA Medical Center - Shreveport, Pinecrest Developmental Center, Rapides Parish Library and Rapides Regional Medical Center are members of the Central

Louisiana Medical Library Consortium that provides extensive holdings in the areas of medicine and psychology. The Louisiana College Library in Pineville, Louisiana, has a psychology collection that is also available to LSUA students and faculty. Interlibrary loan and document delivery services are available to LSUA students and faculty. Both services are subsidized by the library and can procure almost any materials needed in a timely manner.

In total, it is estimated that approximately \$18,000.00 will be needed for library expenditures during the first five years of the proposed psychology program. This is in keeping with normal University allocations to the program.

7. Facilities and Equipment

The proposal describes program facility/equipment usage and needs as follows:

A Bachelor of Science in Psychology is a degree that will rely on support and equipment from throughout the university. The program will utilize classrooms and laboratories which are assigned through the University. There are no specialized classrooms assigned. LSUA has sufficient classroom space available for the program in existing or planned buildings on campus.

In general, a multi-purpose classroom and office building continues to be needed. Funding for the design and planning of this building has been received and design plans are nearly complete. Construction funds are included in the capital outlay bill for 2006-2007. The completion of this building will provide office and classroom space for this program including the department office suite, large lecture classrooms, a support lab and the requisite number of faculty offices.

8. Administration

The program will be administered by the Department of Behavioral and Social Sciences who reports directly to the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

9. Accreditation

No specialized accreditation is required of the proposed program.

10. Costs

The proposal provided the following program budget and explanation:

An additional position will be requested during the FY 06-07 budgeting process. If the increase is approved by the University Planning Council as a high priority, every effort is made to include the anticipated expense in the following annual budget. Travel is usually budgeted at \$1,000 per faculty. Increases for supplies, capital outlay, and library for increased faculty are not guaranteed and will be included with requests during the budgeting process.

Given the priority of this program, the University is prepared to reallocate funds in support of the program. Because the program will attract new students, it is possible that self-generated revenue (SGR) would increase thus allowing the university to add the program without additional state funding. In light of uncertainties in enrollment in the wake of hurricanes and in anticipation of higher admission standards for fall 2007, all additional money is listed as new albeit modest state appropriations.

	FIRST YEAR (AY 2006- 2007)		SECOND YEAR		THIRD YEAR		FOURTH YEAR	
	AMOUNT	FTE	AMOUNT	FTE	AMOUNT	FTE	AMOUNT	FTE
Faculty	\$ 46,300	1	\$ 48,152	1	\$ 50,078	1	\$ 52,081	1
Graduate Assistants	0		0		0		0	
Support Personnel	0		0		0		0	
Fellowships & Scholarships	0		0		0		0	
SUB-TOTAL	\$ 46,300	1	\$ 48,152	1	\$ 50,078	1	\$ 52,081	1
	AMOUNT		AMOUNT		AMOUNT		AMOUNT	
Facilities	\$ 0		\$ 0		\$ 0		\$ 0	
Equipment	2,101		0		0		0	
Travel	1,000		1,000		1,000		1,000	
Supplies	2,008		2,038		2,067		2,098	
SUB-TOTAL	5,109		3,038		3,067		3,098	
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 51,409		\$ 51,190		\$ 53,145		\$ 55,179	
Amount & Percentage of Total Anticipated From:	AMOUNT	%	AMOUNT	%	AMOUNT	%	AMOUNT	%
State Appropriations	\$ 25,735	50.06	\$ 25,626	50.06	\$ 25,706	48	\$ 27,623	50.06
Federal Grants/Contracts	0		0		0		0	
State Grants/Contracts	0		0		0		0	
Private Grants/Contracts	0		0		0		0	
Other (specify)*	25,673	49.94	25,564	49.94	27,439	52	27,556	49.94
TOTAL	\$ 51,409	100	\$ 51,190	100	\$ 53,145	100	\$ 55,179	100

* Self generated funds.

STAFF ANALYSIS

Louisiana State University-Alexandria has presented a well-justified and well-conceived proposal to establish a separate and distinct B.S. program in Psychology. Their request for immediate approval is reasonable, but a stipulation should be added requiring the appointment of another full-time FTE Psychology faculty by the beginning of AY 2007-2008.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The staff recommends that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee grant conditional approval for the proposed B.S. program in Psychology (CIP Code) at Louisiana State University-Alexandria, effective immediately. By August 1, 2007, the University shall engage the services of an additional, full-time, FTE Psychology faculty. A report to the Commissioner of Higher Education indicating that this stipulation has been addressed shall be due the same date.